AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-8 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A fuel cell comprising:

a pair of separators sandwiching a pair of electrodes provided on both sides of a solid polymer electrolyte membrane; and

~~an~~ insulating picture frame-shaped ~~member~~ members attached to an outer edge of each of the separators for allowing increase and decrease of a space between the separators during movement of the separators while the space between adjacent separators is sealed by said picture frame-shaped ~~member attached at an outer edge of the separators~~ members,

wherein each of said picture frame-shaped ~~member~~ members includes an elastic material and ~~said picture frame-shaped member~~ is disposed on both sides of each of said separators.

2. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein a first of the picture frame-shaped ~~member~~ members being attached to one of the separators is constituted so as to be able to slide relative to a second of the picture frame-shaped ~~member~~ members being attached to the other separator and seal said space between the separators.

3. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein said separators are made of a metal, and at least one of said picture frame-shaped ~~member~~ members is formed of a hard material and an elastic material.

4. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said picture frame-shaped ~~member~~ members has a separator positioning device.

5. (currently amended) A fuel cell stack formed by stacking a plurality of unit fuel cells according to claim 1, wherein a peripheral end surface of each of said separators is covered by each of said picture frame-shaped ~~member~~ members.

6. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, further comprising ~~a reaction surface~~ peripheral sealing ~~member~~ members each of which surrounds a corrugated portion of each of said separators.

7. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 6, further comprising an insulating outer edge member for covering ~~an outermost portion~~ a surface of one of the separators outside of one of said ~~reaction surface~~ peripheral sealing ~~member~~ members wherein said insulating outer edge member is integrally formed with said ~~reaction surface~~ peripheral sealing member.

8. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim ~~7~~ 6, wherein a first ~~reaction surface~~ of the peripheral sealing ~~member~~ members of a respective separator is formed in a flat shape, and a second ~~reaction surface~~ of the peripheral sealing ~~member~~ members of an adjacent separator which faces to said flat ~~reaction surface~~ peripheral sealing member is formed so as to protrude.

9. (canceled)

10. (withdrawn) A fuel cell, comprising a pair of separators sandwiching a pair of electrodes formed on both surfaces of a solid polymer electrolyte membrane, and insulating members provided around communication holes formed in said separators, so as to form a space between the insulating members.

11. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 10, wherein a space is provided between two of said insulating members of adjacent separators in the stacking direction of the separators.

12. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 11, wherein respective insulating members of respective adjacent separators are formed such that adjacent separators are capable of relatively sliding so as to allow increase and decrease of the space between separators while said insulating members are sealing the spaces between separators.

13. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 12, wherein said insulating members are made of an elastic material.

14. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 13, wherein inner peripheral surfaces of the communication holes are covered by the insulating member.

15. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 14, wherein one of the insulating members of one of adjacent separators is formed in a flat shape, and another one of the insulating member of another one of adjacent separators facing to said one of the flat insulating member is formed in a protruded shape.

16. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 15, comprising reaction surface peripheral sealing members surrounding reaction surfaces of said separator, wherein one of the reaction surface peripheral sealing member of one separator among adjacent separators is formed in a flat shape, while another one of the reaction surface peripheral sealing member of another separator facing said flat reaction surface peripheral member is formed in a protruded shape.

17. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 16, wherein an outside portion of said reaction surface peripheral sealing member is totally covered by said insulating member.

18. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 17, wherein said reaction surface peripheral sealing member and said insulating member are integrally formed.

19. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 18, wherein both outside surfaces of said reaction surface peripheral sealing member are totally covered by the insulating member which is integrally formed with said reaction surface peripheral sealing member.